

Serial No.: 09/661,696  
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REMARKS

Claims 7, 9-11 and 26-52 are pending following entry of this Amendment.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of cancelled claims 1-6, 8 and 12-25 in a continuation application.

REJECTION OF THE CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102

The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-21 under 102 (b) as anticipated by WO 98/24883 is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims in the present Amendment.

REJECTION OF THE CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103

The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-25 under section 103 as obvious over WO 98/24883 taken with Wang [J.Parenertal Science and Technology (1988) 42:4-26] is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims in the present Amendment.

In view of the above amendments, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and early and favorable consideration by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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